

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Please cancel claims 29 and 30 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please rewrite claims 25, 31 and 33 as follows.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-24 (canceled)

25. (currently amended) A bonded article, comprising:

a first substrate;

a second substrate; and

a bonding layer interposed between said first and second substrates to bond said first and second substrates to one another, said bonding layer having a thickness of not more than 0.5 μ m and comprising a composite oxide comprising at least one alkali metal element and at least one transition metal element, wherein

a solvent used for the bonding layer consists essentially of an aqueous solvent and at least one of said first substrate and said second substrate comprises a single crystal.

26. (previously presented) The bonded article according to claim 25, wherein said at least one alkali metal element comprises lithium.

27. (previously presented) The bonded article according to claim 25, wherein said composite oxide is selected from the group consisting of lithium niobate, lithium tantalate, lithium niobate-lithium tantalate solid solution, lithium potassium niobate, lithium potassium tantalate and lithium potassium niobate-lithium potassium tantalate solid solution.

28. (previously presented) The bonded article according to claim 26, wherein said composite oxide is selected from the group consisting of lithium niobate, lithium tantalate, lithium niobate-lithium tantalate solid solution, lithium potassium niobate, lithium potassium tantalate and lithium potassium niobate-lithium potassium tantalate solid solution.

29. (canceled)

30. (canceled)

31. (currently amended) The bonded article according to claim 2925, wherein said single crystal comprises a ferrodielectric electro-optic single crystal. |

32. (previously presented) The bonded article according to claim 31, wherein said single crystal comprises at least one selected from the group consisting of lithium niobate, lithium tantalate, lithium niobate-lithium tantalate solid solution, lithium potassium niobate, lithium potassium tantalate, lithium potassium niobate-lithium potassium tantalate solid solution, KTP, glass, silicon, GaAs, and quartz.

33. (currently amended) The bonded article according to claim 3026, wherein said single crystal comprises a ferrodielectric electro-optic single crystal.

34. (previously presented) The bonded article according to claim 33, wherein said single crystal comprises at least one selected from the group consisting of lithium niobate, lithium tantalate, lithium niobate-lithium tantalate solid solution, lithium potassium niobate, lithium potassium tantalate, lithium potassium niobate-lithium potassium tantalate solid solution, KTP, glass, silicon, GaAs, and quartz.

35. (previously presented) The bonded article according to claim 25, wherein the bonded article comprises an optical member.

36. (previously presented) The bonded article according to claim 26, wherein the bonded article comprises an optical member.